



Weekly Information & Communication



Weekly WIC Newsletter

May 8, 2017

Applications for New or Modified Coverage Area Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Programs (BPCP)

If your local agency is interested in implementing a new BPCP or expanding the area that your BPCP serves in FFY 2018, now is the time to apply. Information on what to include in your application for a new program or expanded service area is [available](#). The deadline date is May 26, 2017. If you have any questions about possible funding or your plan submission, contact [Chris](#) at 1-800-443-4298.

eWIC Card Reader Survey

As part of our eWIC project, we need to assess how many card readers to buy for each clinic. These card readers will allow you to easily enter the card number into SPIRIT by swiping the card through, rather than typing it. To get the best information, we have posted a survey online and would like your responses by 5/12. We only need one response per clinic or one response per Agency, if you can answer for your whole Agency.

To access the survey, click on the URL below. Thank you.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D8LPMWV>

Income Eligibility Guidelines for 2018

The Income Eligibility Guidelines (IEG) for FY18 will be posted on the website in June. Please print the updated IEG table, and have available at your work station for reference. For the income eligibility brochure inserts, please indicate how many you need per lead local agency using the [order form](#) on our website. The IEG Form # is [31B WIC Outreach Brochure-Income eligibility Guidelines](#) and 31BS for the Spanish language version. Send all orders to [Kelly](#) by **COB Friday May 12th**. Please dispose of any old inserts, and replace with the updated version.

eWIC is Coming Poster (Pilot Area)

The state office will soon be mailing out eWIC is Coming posters and flyers for agencies in the pilot area. **For the pilot agencies only**, please let [Kelly](#) at 444-0909 know how many you need by **COB Friday May 12th**. The poster is intended for clinic use. The E-WIC flyers are meant to be used as an outreach tool, and distributed around your respective communities.

Reports

[Benefits Issued and Redeemed March 2017](#), [Breastfeeding and Peer Counselor Report April 2017](#), [Participation Report May 2016-April 2017](#).

SPIRIT Utilities URL Change

The SPIRIT Utilities website will be moved to a new URL this week. All clinics on the state network will have the shortcut pushed out to your machines, replacing the existing SPIRIT Utilities desktop shortcut. This will happen Tuesday (5/9) and should be seamless. Clinics not on the state network will need to create the shortcut (URL below).

<https://spiritutil.hhs.mt.gov>

If you have questions or experience problems, please call the WIC Help Desk (1-800-433-4298, opt 1).

Local Agency Representative for National WIC Association (NWA)

The Mountain Plains Region section for NWA is looking for a local agency representative and alternative for Montana. They have monthly conference calls which tend to be the 1st Tuesday of each month. Ideally, all states would have representation by local staff, and we have not had any in recent years. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact [Carol Winter](#) at 913-477-8126.

Nutrition Training

There was a nutrition training webinar on May 4th. The training covered the health information screen for all participants. Some of the information included system assign risk codes, how linking works, and data integrity. If you would like to review this training, please visit the [training area](#) on the WIC website.

WMHS Nurse Consultant Position

There is an RN position for the State in the Men's and Women's Health office (family planning/Title X). For the full job description [click here](#).

May Outreach Idea

Collaborate with any breastfeeding programs you may have in your community. Some possible organizations to reach out to are the March of Dimes, Le Leche League, Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies, CLC's or nurses/medical staff with training in this area.

New Training Site

Moodle will be replaced with DPHHS eLearn. This was launched on May 1st. The new icon will be pushed out to all state network computers. If you are off the state network, the [DPHHS eLearn](#) link will take you to the site. You will have to use your state login information to access the site. Sorry for the short notice. The State Office was told about the change on April 25th. If you have questions please contact [Dick](#) or [Lacy](#).

Weekly Risk Code Highlight

[Risk Code 135](#). Slowed/Faltering Growth Pattern is defined as follows:

Age	Cut-Off Value
Infants Birth to 2 Weeks	Excessive weight loss after birth, defined as $\geq 7\%$ birth weight.
Infants 2 weeks to 6 Months of Age	Any weight loss. Use two separate weight measurements taken at least eight weeks apart.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Help us keep the distribution list updated - send e-mail address changes, additions and deletions to the WIC State Office at 1-800-433-4298.

